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| EXAMINER |
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FERGUSON SAMRETH, MARISSA LIANA

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2854

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05/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/633,958

Applicant(s)

CHI ET AL.

Examiner

Marissa L. Ferguson-Samreth

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 37 recites the limitation "the second cantilevered roller shaft" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

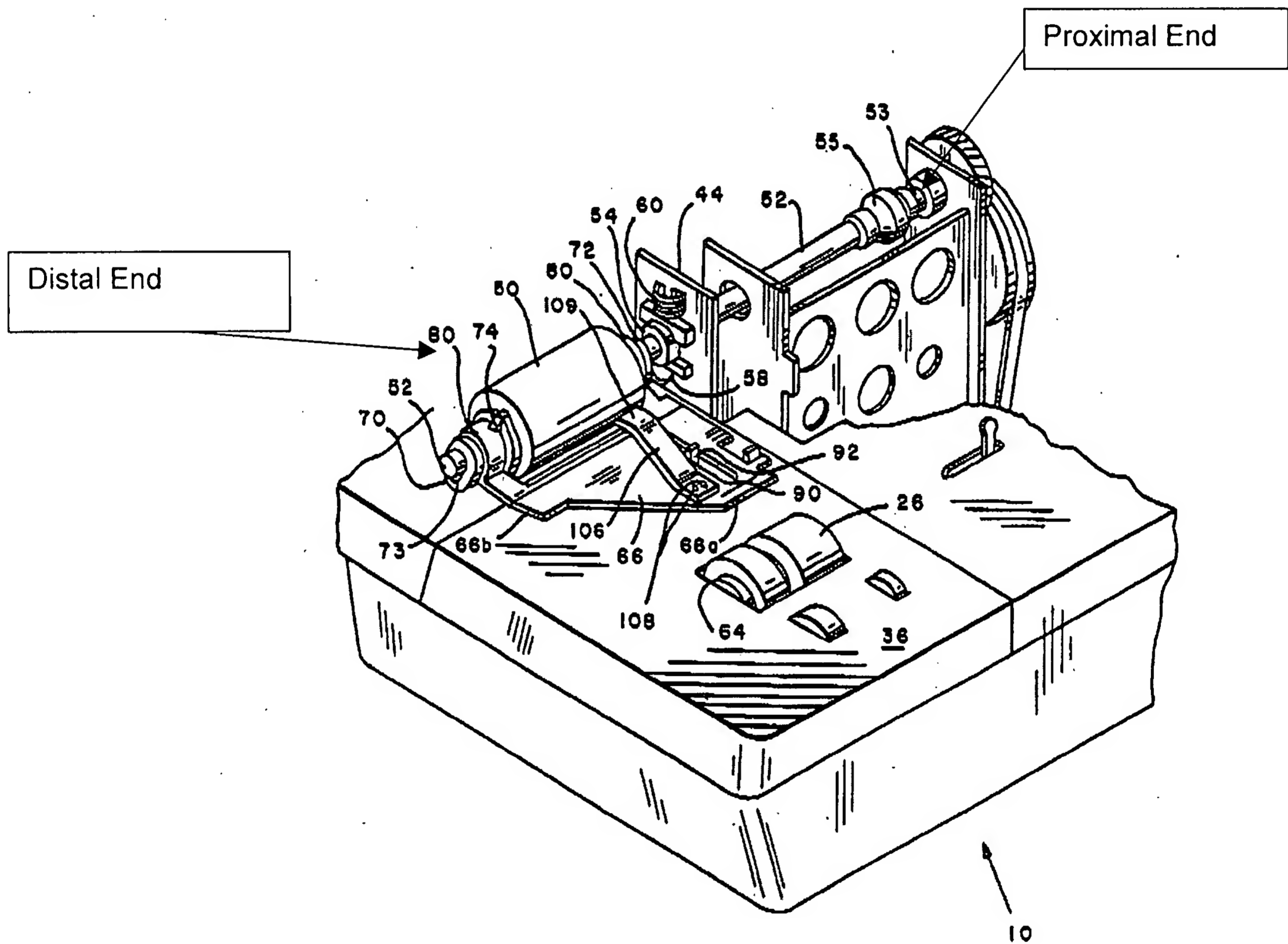
Claims 1-3, 9-15, 18-26 and 29-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miciukiewicz (US Patent 4,763,575).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 20, 32-33, 40, 41, 46 and 47, Miciukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising a frame (10, 12), at least one cantilevered roller shaft (52) comprises a distal end and a proximal end (refer to figure on page 3) for advancing a document (18), wherein the proximal end is coupled to the frame of such that the distal end floats (As for advancing a document, wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported only at one end (Figure 2), a bushing/bushings (70, 72) coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft and a spring (106) coupled to the frame and the bushings via a pressure plate (66) and attached at portion 109.

Regarding claim 2, 3, 11, 12, 21, 22, Miciukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus wherein a supported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is

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supported at two support locations (44, 55) located outside a document path, wherein the document (18) can be appropriately fed and wherein the need for a rigid frame directly supports the unsupported end is eliminated (Figure 2).



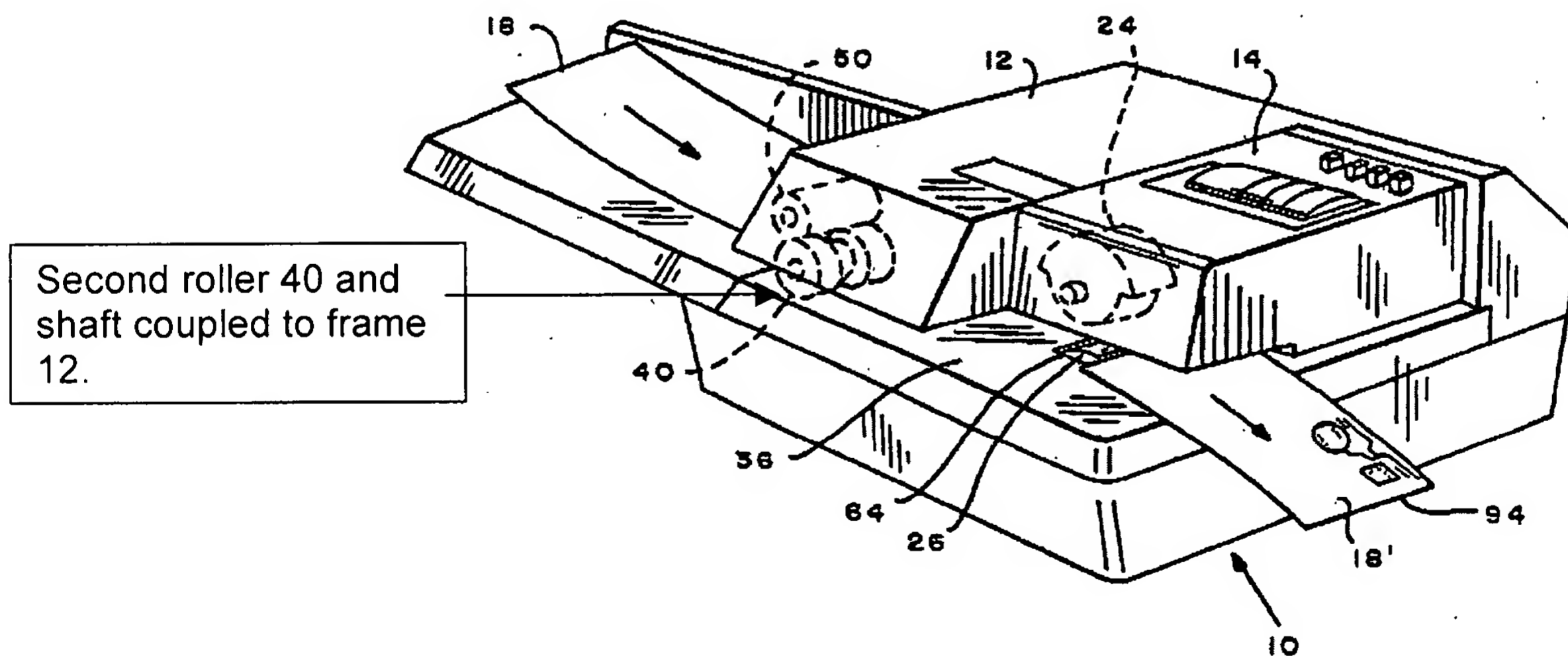
Regarding claims 4, 13 and 23, Miciukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein the frame further comprises a main portion (12) and front portion (10), and wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft (52) is coupled to the main

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portion such that the at least one cantilevered roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

Regarding claims 5, 14 and 24, Miciukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein at least one gimbal roller (50) is coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft (52).

Regarding claim 15, 26, 34-36, 38, 39, 42 and 43, Miciukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising, a second roller shaft coupled to the frame (refer to figure 4 on page 5 and figure 1 below) for advancing a document, a second roller shaft having a distal and proximal end (refer to figure 8 on page 5), wherein the distal end floats and wherein the document is removed from the path (inherent feature).

**FIG. 1**

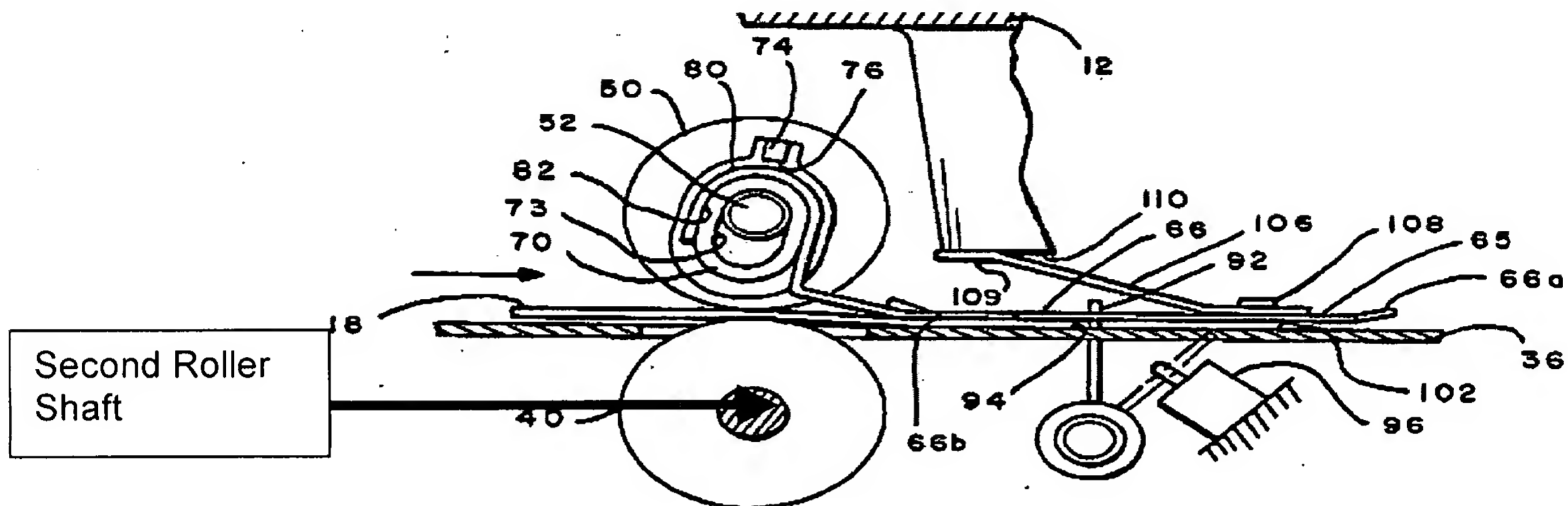
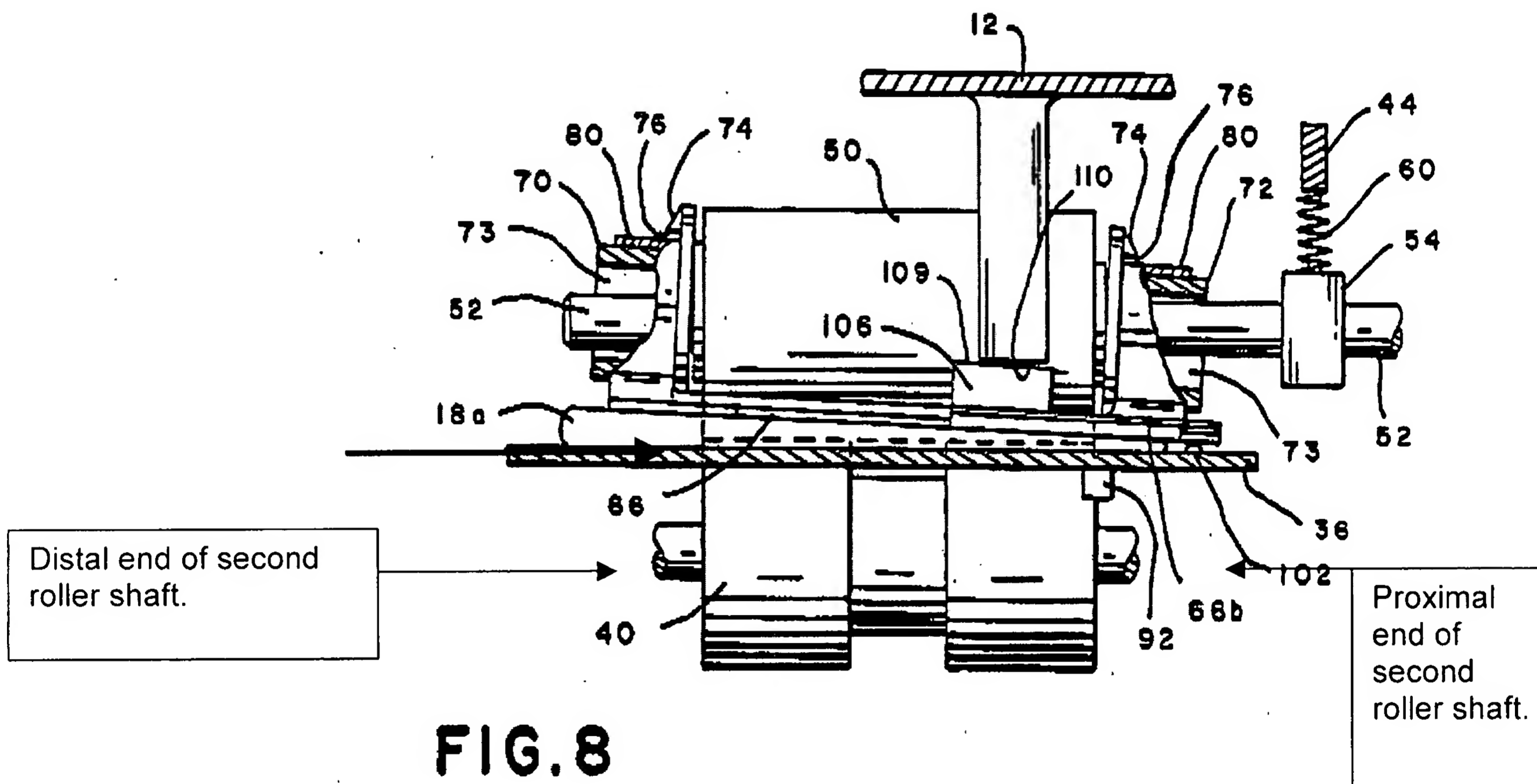


FIG. 4



Regarding claims 9, 19 and 30, Micrukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus wherein at least one gimbal roller (40) is coupled to the second roller shaft.

Regarding claims 18, 29, 44 and 45, Micrukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein the frame further comprises a main portion (12) and front portion (10), and wherein the second roller shaft (refer to figure 1 on page 4 and figure 4 on page 5) is coupled to the main portion such that the second roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support.

Regarding claims 25 and 31, Micrukiewicz teaches a method and apparatus comprising a drive device coupled to the frame, wherein the drive device rotates the at least one shaft to advance the document and wherein the drive device rotates the second roller shaft to advance the document (Column 3, Lines 34-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guaraldi et al. (US 6,122,978) in view of Jeschke (US Patent 3,584,577).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 20, 32-34, 40-42, 46 and 47, Guaraldi teaches an apparatus and method comprising a frame (100), at least one cantilevered roller shaft

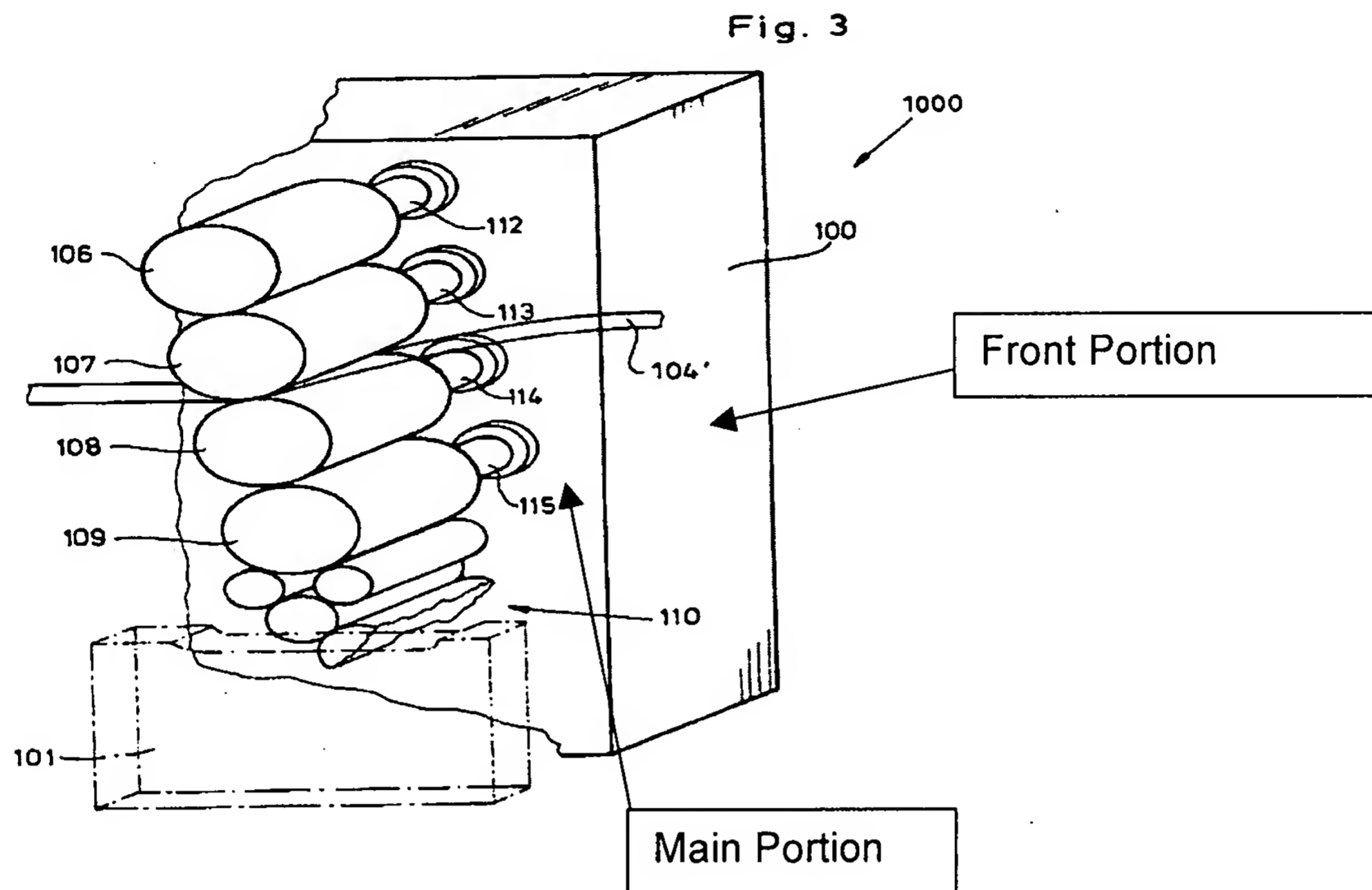
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(113) comprises a distal end and a proximal end for advancing a document (104), wherein the proximal end is coupled to the frame of such that the distal end floats (As shown in Figure 3 and Column 6, Lines 14-36) and the at least one cantilevered roller shaft is supported only at one end (Figure 3) and a bearing (116). However, he does not explicitly disclose a spring coupled to the frame and the bearing. Jeschke teaches a spring (23) connected to a bearing block (18) and frame.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention as taught by Guaraldi to include a spring couple to a bearing and a frame as taught by Jeschke, since Jeschke teaches that it is advantageous for urging the rollers together in a tight connection to thereby dampen vibration between the rollers.

Regarding claims 2, 3, 11, 12, 21, 22, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus wherein a supported end of the at least one cantilevered roller shaft (113) is supported at two support locations (100, 11) located outside a document path, wherein the document can be appropriately fed (Figure 3 and Figure 6a) and wherein the need for a rigid frame directly supports the unsupported end is eliminated (Figure 3 and 6a).

Regarding claims 4, 13, 23, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus wherein a frame (100) further comprises a main portion and front portion (refer to figure 3 below), and wherein the at least one cantilevered roller shaft (113) is coupled to the main portion such that the at least one cantilevered roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support (Figure 3).



Regarding claims 5, 14 and 24, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein at least one gimbal roller (107) is coupled to the at least one cantilevered roller shaft (113).

Regarding claims 6-8, 15-17, 26-28, 35-39 and 43, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus comprising a second roller shaft (114) coupled to the frame, a second roller shaft (114) is cantilevered wherein a second unsupported end of the second cantilevered roller shaft floats (Figures 3, 6a) and wherein a second supported end of the second roller shaft is supported two second support locations (100, 111) located outside a document path.

Regarding claims 9, 19 and 30, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein at least one gimbal roller (108) is coupled to the second roller shaft (114).

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Regarding claims 18, 29, 44 and 45, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus comprising wherein a frame (100) further comprises a main portion and front portion (refer to figure 3 on page 3 of the office action), and wherein the second roller shaft (114) is coupled to the main portion such that the second roller shaft does not rely on the front portion for support (Figure 3).

Regarding claims 25 and 31, Guaraldi teaches a method and apparatus comprising a drive device (128) coupled to the frame, wherein the drive device rotates the at least one shaft to advance the document (Column 6, Lines 54-67) and a drive device (129) coupled to the frame, wherein the drive device rotates the second roller shaft to advance the document (Column 7, Lines 53-60).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa L. Ferguson-Samreth whose telephone number is (571) 272-2163. The examiner can normally be reached on (M-T) 6:30am-4:00pm and every other (F) 7:30am-4:00.

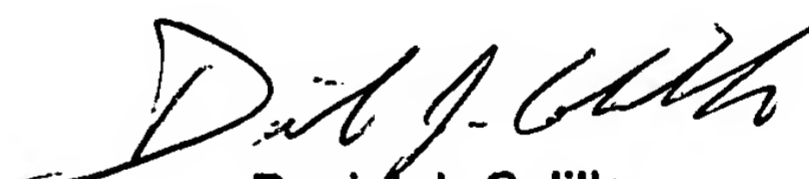
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Marissa L Ferguson-Samreth
Examiner
Art Unit 2854

MFS



Daniel J. Colilla
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854